

Midway Town Hall Restoration

BY ROBIN JOHNSON
Wave Staff Writer

10-2-02

Warren Dinter addressed the Midway City Council about the Midway Boosters' five-phase plan to refurbish the Midway Town Hall.

Dinter said phase one is complete. The Boosters are now ready to move forward with phase two which includes the building's interior main hall, the sides and the back walls.

The purpose of the town hall is cultural, Dinter said. He described his proposed design for the walls. He said it is not part of phase two for the basketball standards to be permanently removed, although they have not been put back into place.

Councilman Harold Remund pointed out that removal of the basketball standards was only approved by the city council for the duration of the 2002 Winter Olympics.

Dinter asked if all six standards were needed. He felt the two issues with replacing all of the standards are damage to the mantle on the side walls and aesthetics. If the front and back standards were replaced, regulation basketball could still be played and, without the other four on the sides, there would be less damage to the new wall design.

Councilman Don Huggard commented on the younger children liking to play basketball from side to side. Remund agreed. He said his daughter and her friends would often shoot at the side baskets while her brothers played on the regulation court.

Many ideas were generated by the council, such as retractable standards, protection along the side walls for use during basketball play and even placing some of the standards outside.

"I think what's been done on the town hall is beautiful, it definitely adds to the building and makes it a lot more beautiful," Remund expressed. "I see this thing as becoming a theater. I think we need to take into consideration this is a basketball court and there's going to be

damage."

"There's an awful lot of kids out there who are going to want to play basketball in the next 20 years," Arlin Kohler added. "We need things for the kids to do. This is something Midway has always done for the kids and I'm not ready to see that change. As a kid I could always get in there any time I wanted to."

Kohler went on to suggest maybe it's time to do what's been done in the recreation center

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Arlin Kohler
Midway City Councilman

and provide supervision in the Midway Town Hall so the kids can still use it for basketball.

"It does need protection in there," Mayor Bill Probst agreed. "It is not just a basketball court. The hall has a lot of multi-purposes there. I think we can come to a compromise. I think there is a solution to this problem and we've got all winter to figure it out."

Brian Preece confirmed the city has set aside \$25,000 in the budget for use on town hall; \$12,000 for outside renovation and \$13,000 to renovate the hall's interior.

Dr Con't..

"Informational Meetings Only" and not a time to voice one's personal opinion, pro or con. Yet those in charge of the meeting allowed those with strong opinions against the airport to dominate the meeting.

I would like to respond to some of the "anti-airport" improvement comments I have heard or read.

• "I don't want this to be a hub for outsiders."

Have you ever flown out of Salt Lake City, a "hub"? Have you wondered how your travel plans would be changed without such a hub nearby - or if you were denied boarding because you were not from Salt Lake City?

Also our travel out of this busy airport is safer when smaller general aviation aircraft are using airports more suited to their needs and are not competing for airspace used by commercial aircraft.

What do you do when you need an item that you cannot obtain locally? You drive to another town that has what you need. What would happen if you arrived in that town and the store owner refused to sell you the item that you needed because you came from "out of town" or because you arrived in a more expensive car than the store owner had?

• "Only Heber City and the airport reap the financial rewards from the airport business."

The airport and its facilities already exist, so what is wrong with letting those who use it (including the "outsiders"), con-

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